

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 097472 TOSEC 040060
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF:RMOOSE:MRL

APPROVED BY AF:RMOOSE

S/S-O:SVALERGA

-----029182 150641Z /10

O 150624Z APR 78 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 097472 TOSEC 040060

EXDIS, FOR THE SECRETARY FROM DICK MOOSE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:RH, PDV, UK

SUBJECT:RHODESIA: OWEN/VANCE MEETING WITH THE PATRIOTIC
AFTERNOON APRIL 14

REFS: SECTO 4038, SECTO 4039

1. FROM BACK HERE, THE PF POSITIONS REPORTED REFTELS ARE
PUZZLING. THEY ARE WORSE THAN HARD LINE: RETROGRESSIVE
WOULD BE A BETTER TERM. PERHAPS NKOMO AND MUGABE WERE OUT
TO PROVE THAT THE FRONT LINE CANNOT SPEAK FOR THEM. IF
THIS IS THE CASE, THEY WILL HAVE TO START COMING AROUND
RATHER QUICKLY ON SATURDAY. OTHERWISE THE ONLY EXPLANATION
THEY WILL BE ABLE TO OFFER TO THE FRONT LINE FOR THEIR
FAILURE TO HONOR WHATEVER UNDERTAKING EXISTED WILL BE THE
US-UK UNWILLINGNESS TO MAKE "BINDING AGREEMENTS." IF
THIS IS THEIR INTENT, IT IS A POSTURE WHICH THEY MUST HAVE
DECIDED UPON ON THE BASIS OF GRAHAM-LOW CONTACTS BEFORE
THE DAR MEETING CONVENED. THIS, COUPLED WITH THE APPARENT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 097472 TOSEC 040060

ABSENCE (JUDGING FROM REFTELS) OF ACTIVE ADVOCACY ON OUR
SIDE OF THE BASIC AAP PROPOSALS, WOULD ENABLE NKOMO AND
MUGABE TO ARGUE -- PERHAPS CONVINCINGLY -- TO THE FRONT
LINE THAT THE US AND UK ARE BACKING AWAY. SUCH A POSTURE
BY PF WOULD REPRESENT A RATHER SHREWD SENSING ON THEIR
PART OF THE CONSTRAINTS ON OUR POSITION AS A RESULT OF
OWEN'S INSISTENCE THAT WE KEEP EVERYTHING OPEN. IF HE BUYS

THIS VIEW NYERERE COULD JUSTIFIABLY ARGUE THAT WE ARE STRAYING FROM THE AGREEMENT HE REACHED WITH PRESIDENT CARTER. UNLESS WE ARE PREPARED TO INSIST THAT PF RETURN TO STRICT TERMS OF ORIGINAL AAP PROPOSALS -- WHICH WOULD EXPOSE US TO DANGER THAT THE PF COULD CALL OUR BLUFF -- WE MAY BE HARD PUT TO DEMAND THAT FRONT LINE DELIVER ON THEIR LAGOS PROMISES.

2. ON THE OTHER HAND THE PF'S BACKTRACKING MAY REFLECT AN UNWILLINGNESS ON THEIR PART TO MEET OUR TERMS AT DAR IF WE WILL THEN EXPECT THEM TO MAKE FURTHER CONCESSIONS AT AN ALL-PARTIES MEETING. THIS WOULD NOT BE AN UNREASONABLE ATTITUDE FROM THEIR POINT OF VIEW. ONE MIGHT EVEN CONSIDER IT A SIGN OF THEIR WILLINGNESS TO BARGAIN WITH THE SALISBURY GROUP. WHILE THIS MIGHT BE A LOGICAL CONJECTURE IN-SOFAR AS NKOMO IS CONCERNED (GIVEN WHAT WE KNOW OF HIS PLANNED MEETING IN EUROPE), IT IS MORE DIFFICULT ATTITUDE TO ASCRIBE TO MUGABE.

3. I HAVE JUST READ EVENING PRESS SUMMARY (TOSEC 40059) WHICH PRESENTS A VERY NEGATIVE OUTLOOK FOR THE DAR TALKS. MAKING ALLOWANCES FOR THE DIFFICULTY OF PROJECTING MY THINKING INTO THE MOVING SITUATION THERE, YOU MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO DO BETTER AT DAR THAN TO SETTLE FOR SOME VAGUE "AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE" WHICH WOULD ENABLE YOU TO GO ON TO SALISBURY WITH SOME SEMBLANCE OF LIFE TO THE AAP. UNLESS THE PF POSITION CHANGES RADICALLY OVERNIGHT, MORE HAGGLING TOMORROW WILL ONLY PUT US DEEPER IN THE HOLE, PROJECTING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 097472 TOSEC 040060

AN IMAGE OF FAILURE BACK HERE AND TAKING THE PRESSURE OFF OF SALISBURY ALTOGETHER.

4. THAT'S ABOUT ALL THE GRATUITOUS ADVICE I CAN COME UP WITH TONIGHT. LOTS OF LUCK. CHRISTOPHER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, TOSEC, MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE097472
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RMOOSE:MRL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780162-0279
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780452/aaaabsac.tel
Line Count: 98
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ca0e28ad-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 78 SECTO 4038, 78 SECTO 4039
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2954946
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIA: OWEN/VANCE MEETING WITH THE PATRIOTIC AFTERNOON APRIL 14
TAGS: PDEV, RH, UK, PATRIOTIC FRONT, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (OWEN, DAVID)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ca0e28ad-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014